SURAH OF AL-BAYYINAH

THE RESEARCH:
SURAH OF AL-BAYYINAH

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THE REFERENCES

1) https://quran.com/al-bayyinah/info

2) https://quran.com/al-bayyinah

BACK

THE BACKGROUND 1

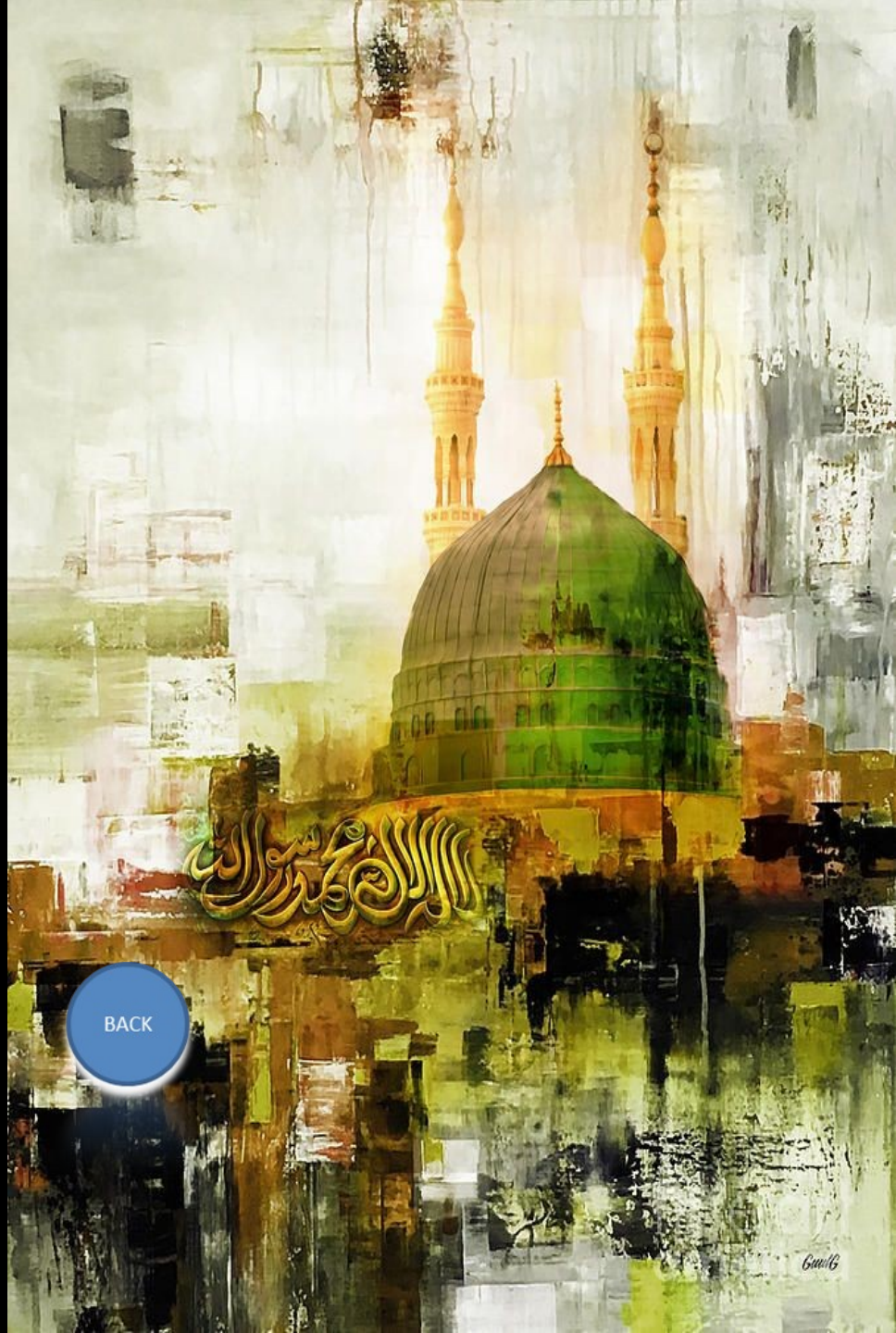
Adapted from Tafsir Ibn Ashur

Themes and purpose:

This Madinan surah primarily seeks to rebuke the People of the Book and the polytheists for rejecting the Prophet (ﷺ) despite the clear evidence of his genuineness. Its purpose is to affirm that the core of all divine messages is sincere Monotheism and to establish the eternal division between the rejecters (the worst of creation) and the Believers (the best of creation).

Context of Revelation:

- Era: The more accurate view is that it is Madinan. Its revelation is placed in the late 3rd or early 4th year AH.
- Context: The surah was revealed to address the situation in Madinah where the Jews and Christians, despite having prophecies of the Prophet's coming, refused to accept him once he arrived, revealing their true intentions.
- Chronology: It has been counted as the 101st surah in the order of revelation, revealed after Sūrat al-Talāq and before al-Hashr.



Name

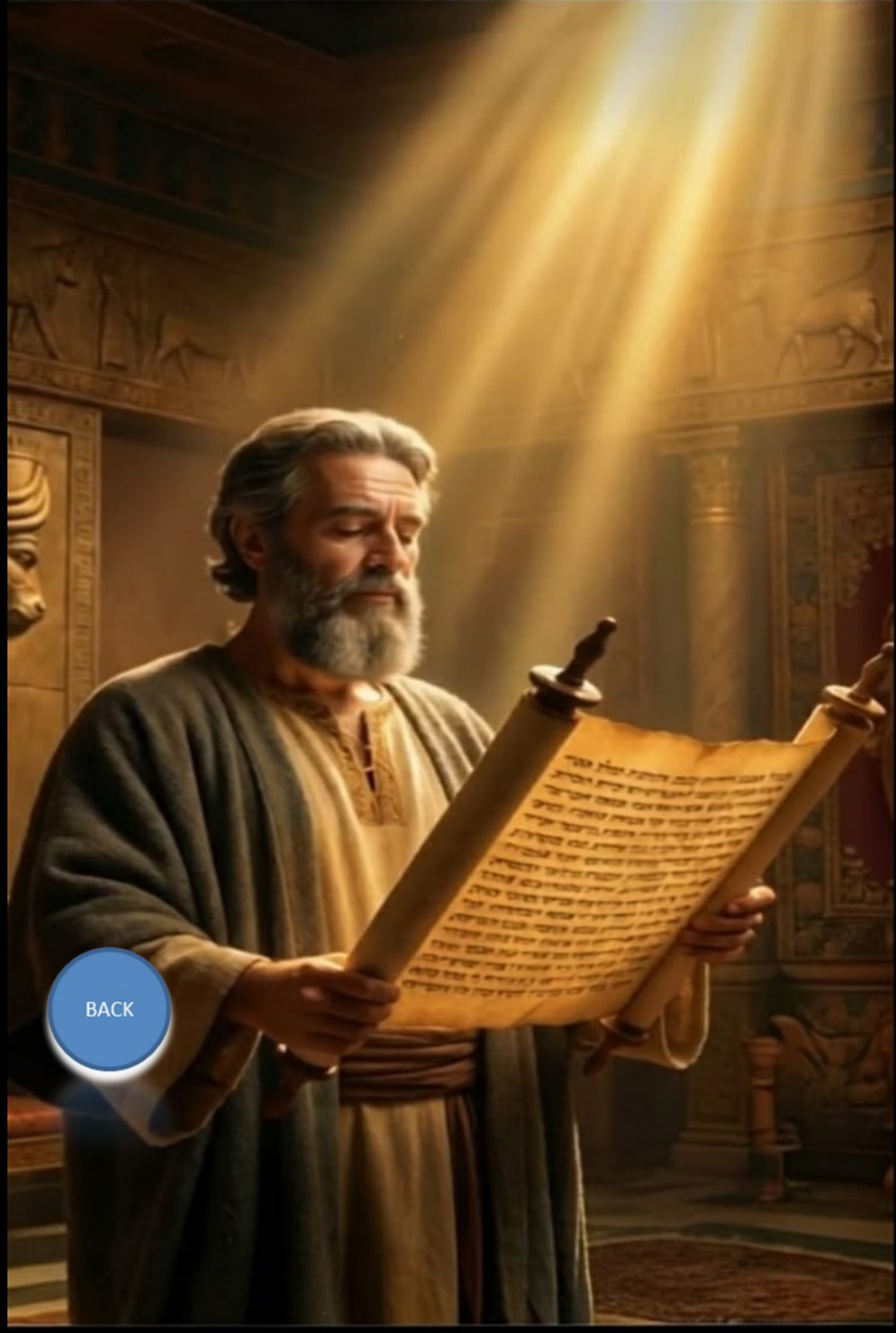
- **Name:** The surah is known by various names, some based on the opening ayah: "Sūrat al-Bayyinah" (The Clear Proof), "Sūrat Lam yakun (alladhīna kafarū)" (They Were Not), "Sūrat Ahl al-Kitāb" (The People of the Book), and "Sūrat al-Infikāk" (The Splitting). It has also been called "Sūrat al-Qayyimah" (The Upright Religion) [5] and "Sūrat al-Bariyyah" (The Creation) [6].

- **Virtue:** The Prophet (ﷺ) was instructed to recite it to Ubayy ibn Kaʿb, which caused the latter to weep with joy [Bukhārī and

Surah Overview:

- Rebuking the People of the Book and the Polytheists for their contradiction: rejecting the Quran and the Messenger after demanding the clear proof of his arrival. [1]
- Praising the Quran for containing the essence of all previous divine books, confirming their truth and adding to their virtue. [2-3]

- Affirming that the Prophet's (□) message is the core, uncorrupted message of Monotheism and sincere worship commanded in all previous scriptures. [5]
- Establishing that the rejecters (Jews, Christians, and polytheists) have chosen to be the worst of creation. [6]
- Praising those who believe and do righteous deeds as the best of creation. [7]
- Promising the believers eternal bliss in the Gardens of Eden and Allah's pleasure. [8]



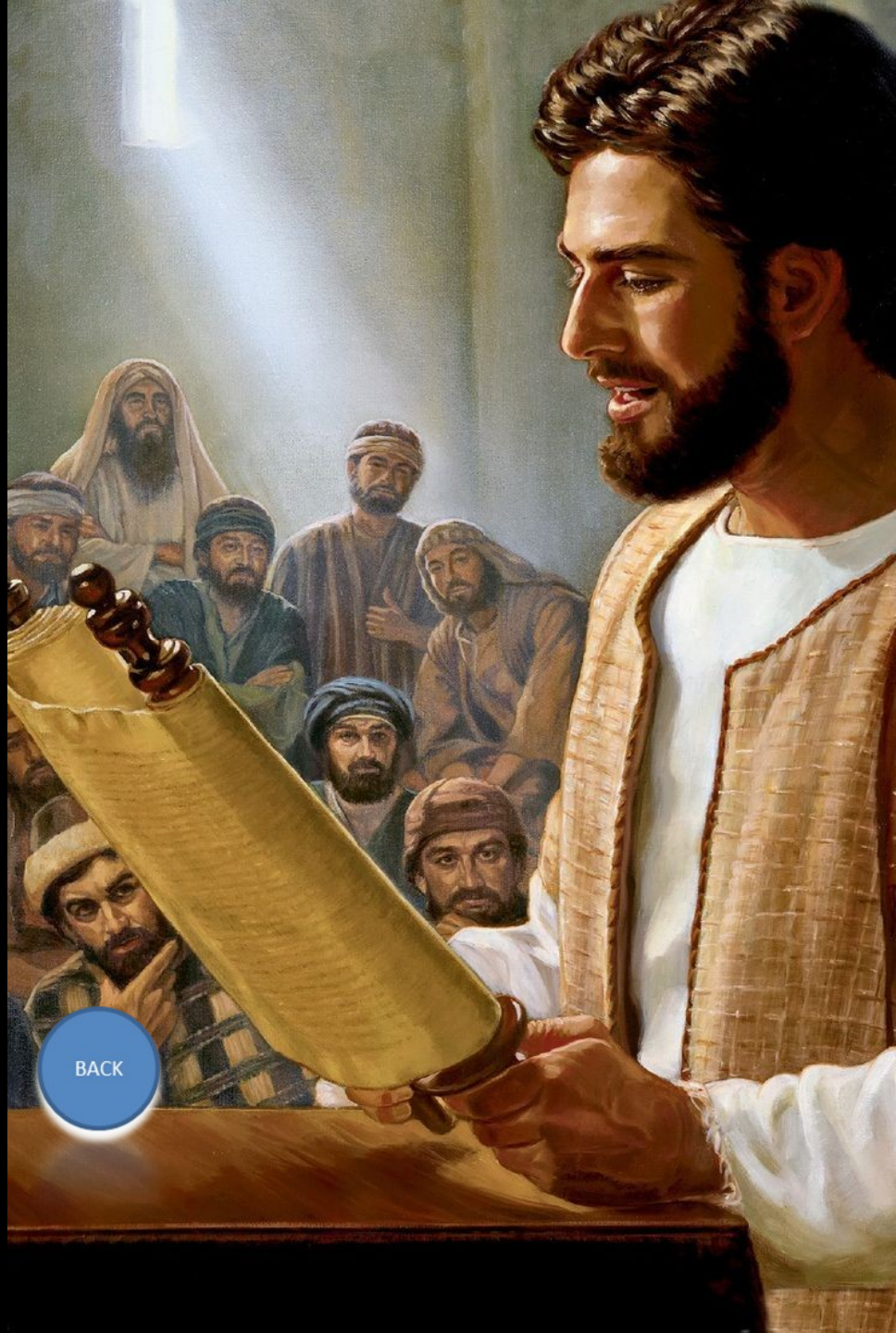
THE AYAT IN DETAILS 2

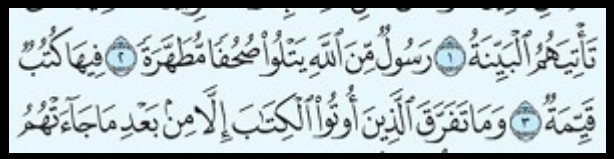
لَمْ يَكُنِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا۟ مِنْ أَهْلِ ٱلْكِتَٰبِ وَٱلْمُشْرِكِينَ مُنفَكِّينَ حَتَّىٰ
تَأْتِيَهُمُ ٱلْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿١﴾ رَسُولٌ مِّنَ ٱللَّهِ يَتْلُوا۟ صُحُفًا مُّطَهَّرَةً ﴿٢﴾ فِيهَا كُتُبٌ

The disbelievers from the People of the Book and the polytheists were not going to desist from disbelief until the clear proof

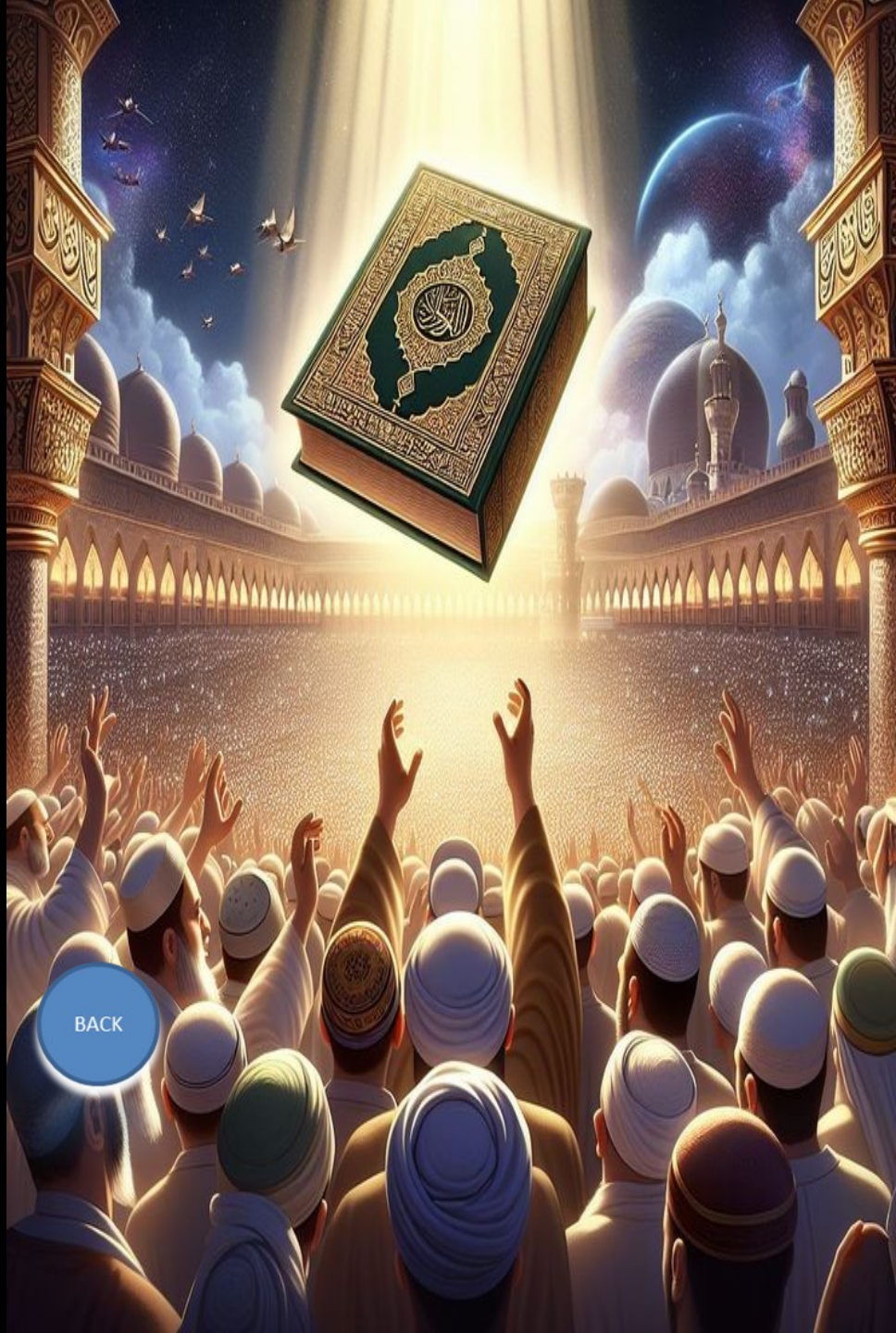
رَسُولٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ يَتْلُوا صُحُفًا مُّطَهَّرَةً ﴿٢﴾

a messenger from Allah, reciting scrolls of utmost purity,




تَأْتِيَهُمُ ٱلْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿١﴾ رَسُولٌ مِّنَ ٱللَّهِ يَتْلُوا۟ صُحُفًا مُّطَهَّرَةً ﴿٢﴾ فِيهَا كُتُبٌ
قَيِّمَةٌ ﴿٣﴾ وَمَا تَفَرَّقَ ٱلَّذِينَ أُوتُوا۟ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ إِلَّا مِنۢ بَعْدِ مَا جَآءَتْهُمُ

containing upright commandments.



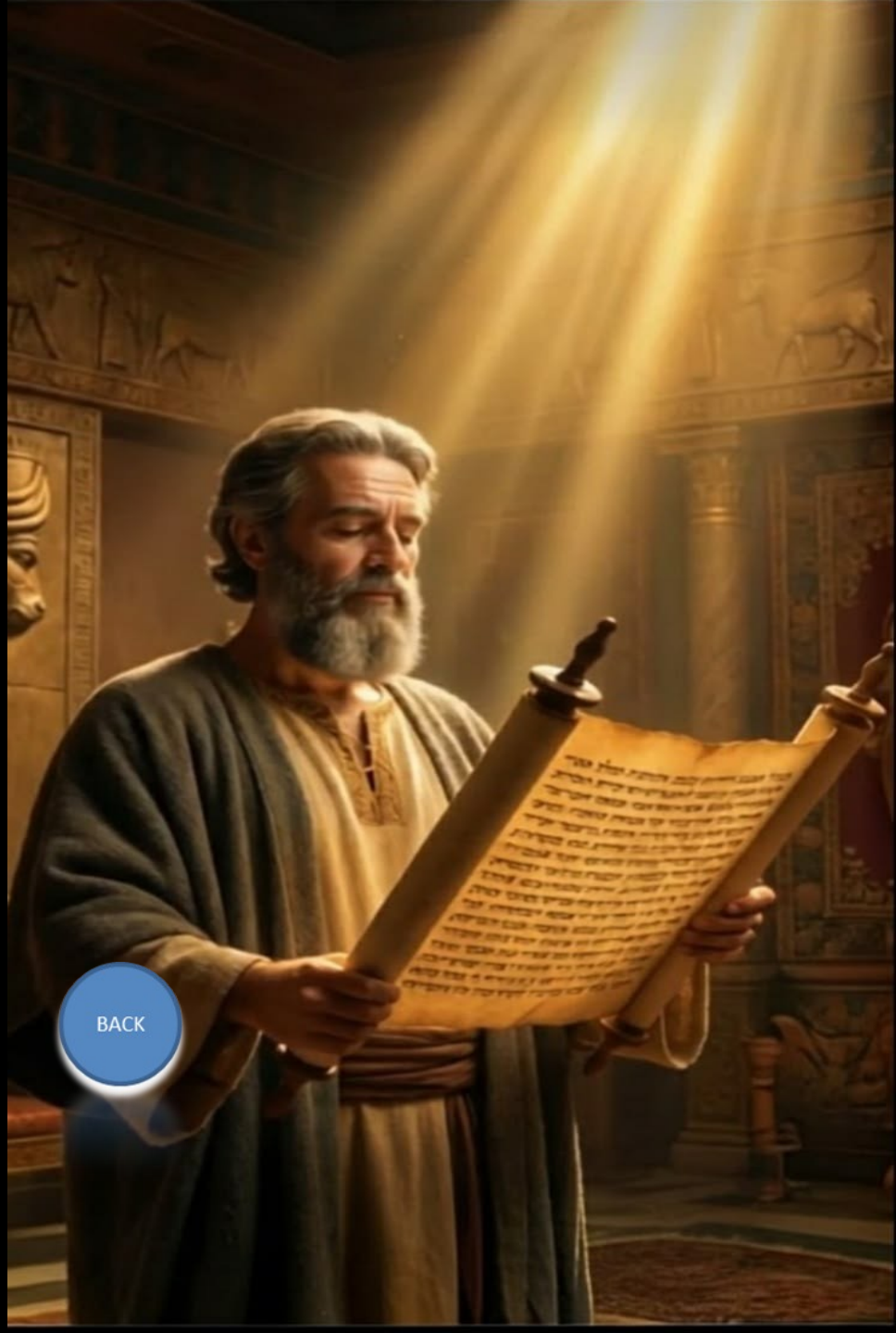
قَيِّمَةٌ ﴿٣﴾ وَمَا تَفَرَّقَ ٱلَّذِينَ أُوتُوا۟ ٱلْكِتَٰبَ إِلَّا مِنۢ بَعْدِ مَا جَآءَتْهُمُ
ٱلْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿٤﴾ وَمَآ أُمِرُوٓا۟ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا۟ ٱللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ ٱلدِّينَ

It was not until this clear proof came to the People of the Book that they became divided about his prophethood.

—

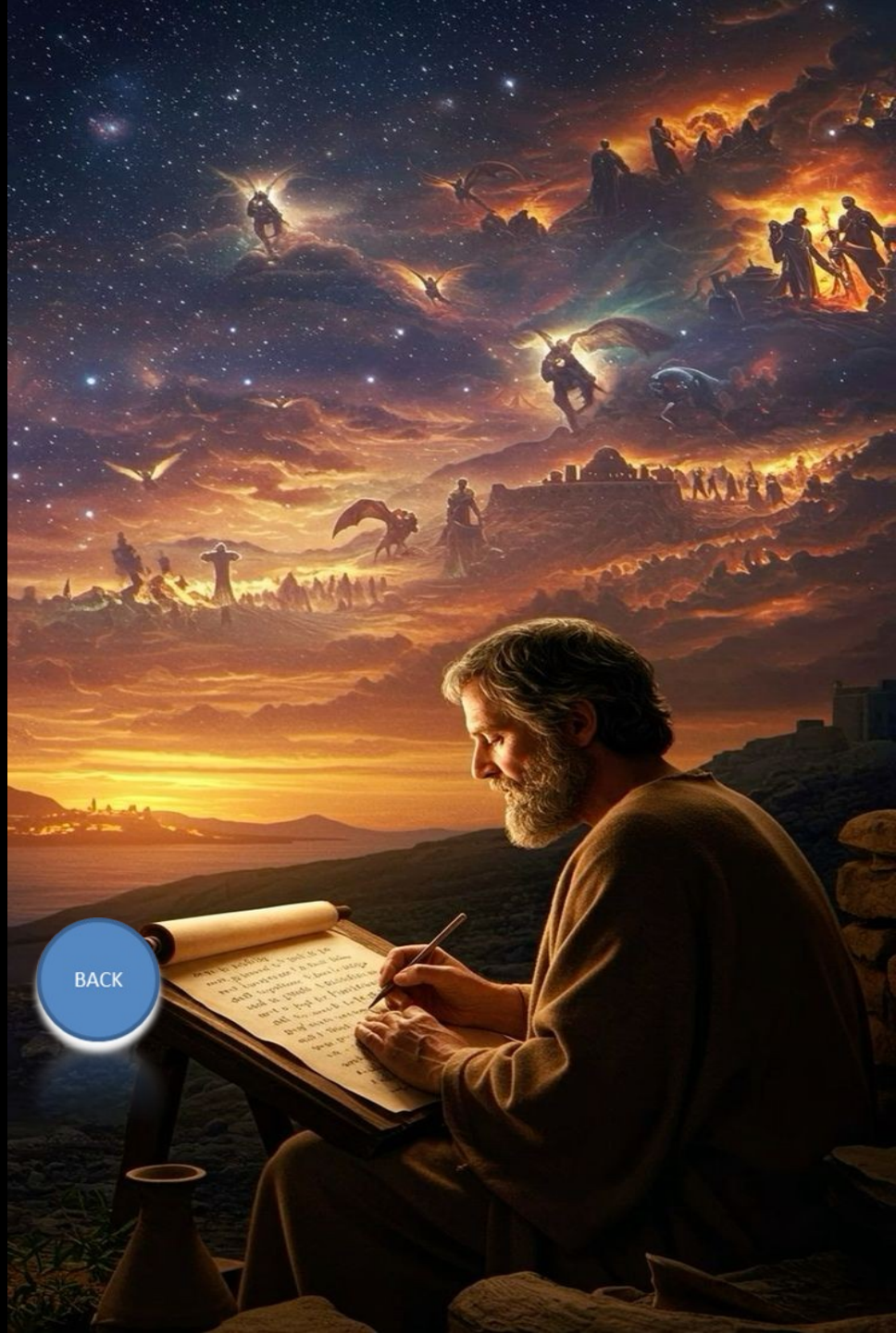
ٱلْبَيِّنَةُ ۝٤ وَمَآ أُمِرُوٓاْ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُواْ ٱللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ ٱلدِّينَ
حُنَفَآءَ وَيُقِيمُواْ ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ وَيُؤْتُواْ ٱلزَّكَوٰةَ ۚ وَذَٰلِكَ دِينُ ٱلْقَيِّمَةِ ۝٥

even though they were only commanded to worship Allah alone with sincere devotion to Him in all uprightness, establish prayer, and pay alms-tax. That is the upright Way.



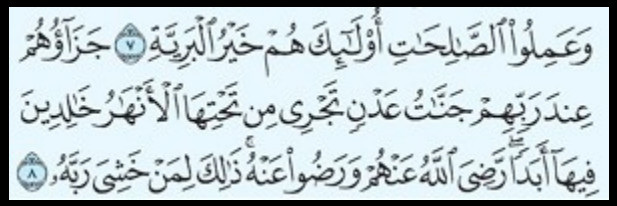
إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُواْ مِنْ أَهْلِ ٱلْكِتَٰبِ وَٱلْمُشْرِكِينَ فِى نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ
خَٰلِدِينَ فِيهَآ أُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمْ شَرُّ ٱلْبَرِيَّةِ ۝٦ إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ

Indeed, those who disbelieve from the People of the Book and the polytheists will be in the Fire of Hell, to stay there forever. They are the worst of □all□ beings.

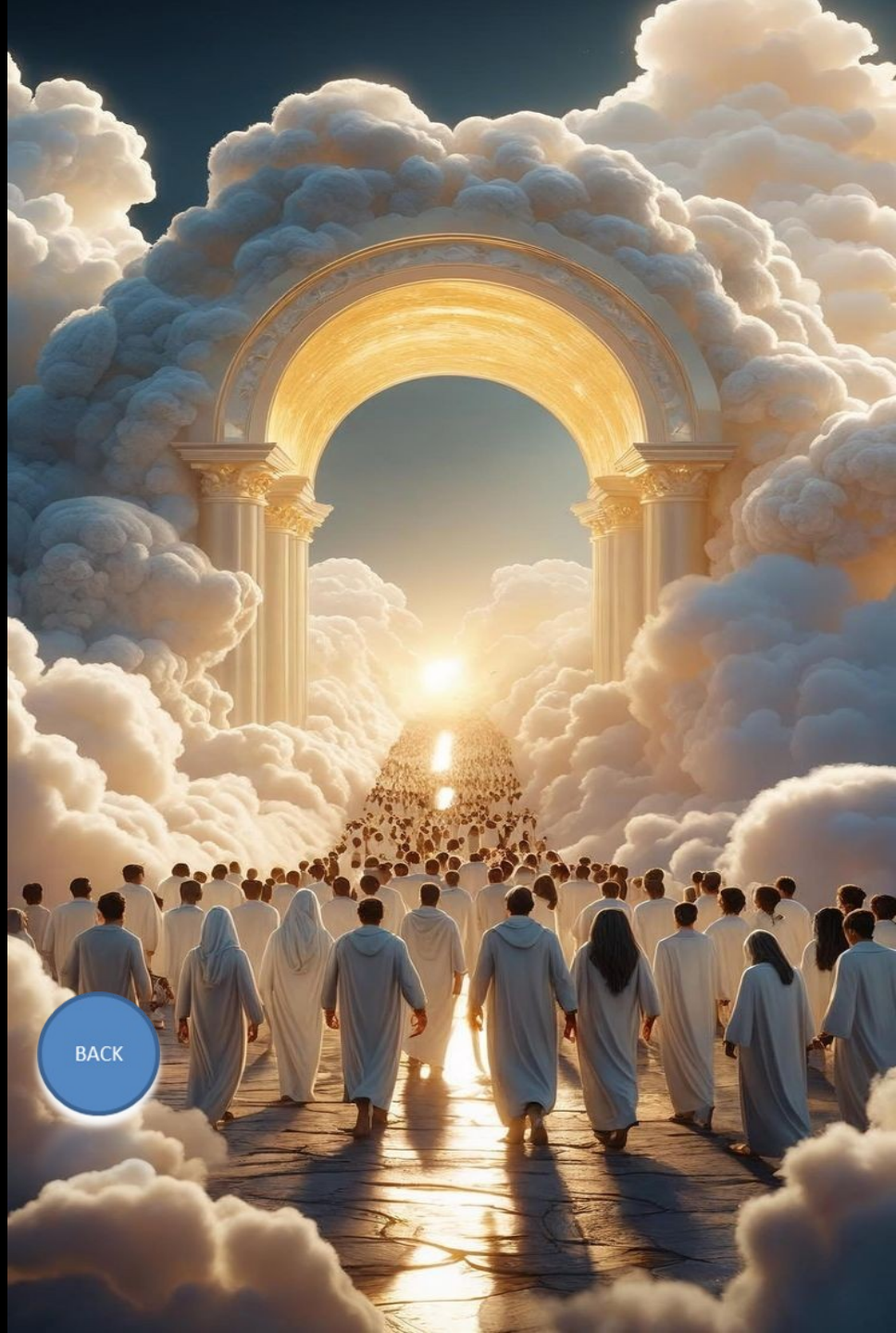


خَٰلِدِينَ فِيهَآ أُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمْ شَرُّ ٱلْبَرِيَّةِ ۝٦ إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ
وَعَمِلُواْ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ أُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمْ خَيْرُ ٱلْبَرِيَّةِ ۝٧ جَزَآؤُهُمْ

Indeed, those who believe and do good—they are the best of [all] beings.


وَعَمِلُوا الصَّٰلِحَٰتِ أُو۟لَٰٓئِكَ هُمْ خَيْرُ ٱلْبَرِيَّةِ ۝٧ جَزَآؤُهُمْ
عِندَ رَبِّهِمْ جَنَّٰتُ عَدْنٍ تَجْرِى مِن تَحْتِهَا ٱلْأَنْهَٰرُ خَٰلِدِينَ
فِيهَآ أَبَدًا ۖ رَّضِىَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا۟ عَنْهُ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ لِمَنْ خَشِىَ رَبَّهُۥ ۝٨

Their reward with their Lord will be Gardens of Eternity, under which rivers flow, to stay there for ever and ever. Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him. This is only for those in awe of their Lord.



EXCERCISES
BACK

1. Remembering (Recall)

1) What is the meaning of the word "Al-Bayyinah"?
2) Who are referred to as the People of the Book in this surah?
3) What was the condition of the disbelievers before the clear proof came to them?
4) What is the "clear proof" mentioned in the surah?
5) What does the Messenger recite according to verse 2?
6) What happened to the People of the Book after the clear proof came to them?

1. Remembering (Recall)

7) What were people commanded to do in verse 5?

8) What are the three acts of worship specifically mentioned in verse 5?

9) Who are described as the worst of creatures?

10) Who are described as the best of creatures?

11) What reward awaits the believers who do righteous deeds?

12) What does Allah say about His pleasure with the believers?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1) Why is the Qur'an described as containing "upright writings"?
2) Explain the significance of the phrase "worship Allah sincerely.“
3) Why was the coming of the Messenger considered a clear proof?
4) What does the surah teach about the relationship between faith and righteous deeds?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

5) Why does the surah criticize those who divided after receiving guidance?
6) How does verse 5 summarize the essence of true religion?
7) What is meant by "the religion of uprightness"?
8) How does the surah distinguish between believers and disbelievers?

3. Applying

1) How can a Muslim practice sincerity in worship today?
2) In what ways can a student apply the teachings of verse 5 in daily life?
3) How can the warning against division help Muslims deal with disagreements today?
4) What actions can a person take to become among the "best of creatures"?
5) How can belief in the rewards mentioned in the surah influence a person's behavior?

4. Analyzing

1) Compare the response of the believers and the disbelievers to the clear proof.
2) Analyze the causes of division among the People of the Book mentioned in the surah.
3) How does the structure of the surah move from evidence to judgment and then to reward?
4) What contrast does the surah create between the final destinations of believers and disbelievers?
5) Why do you think sincerity in worship is mentioned before other acts of obedience?
6) How do verses 6 and 7 emphasize the importance of personal choice and responsibility?

5. Evaluating

1) Why is receiving clear evidence a greater responsibility than remaining ignorant?
2) Which quality mentioned in the surah do you think is most important for a believer? Why?
3) Evaluate the consequences of rejecting truth after recognizing it.
4) Why is sincerity considered essential for the acceptance of good deeds?
5) Do you think knowledge alone is enough to guide a person? Use evidence from the surah to support your answer.
6) Which lesson from Surah Al-Bayyinah is most relevant to modern society? Explain.

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

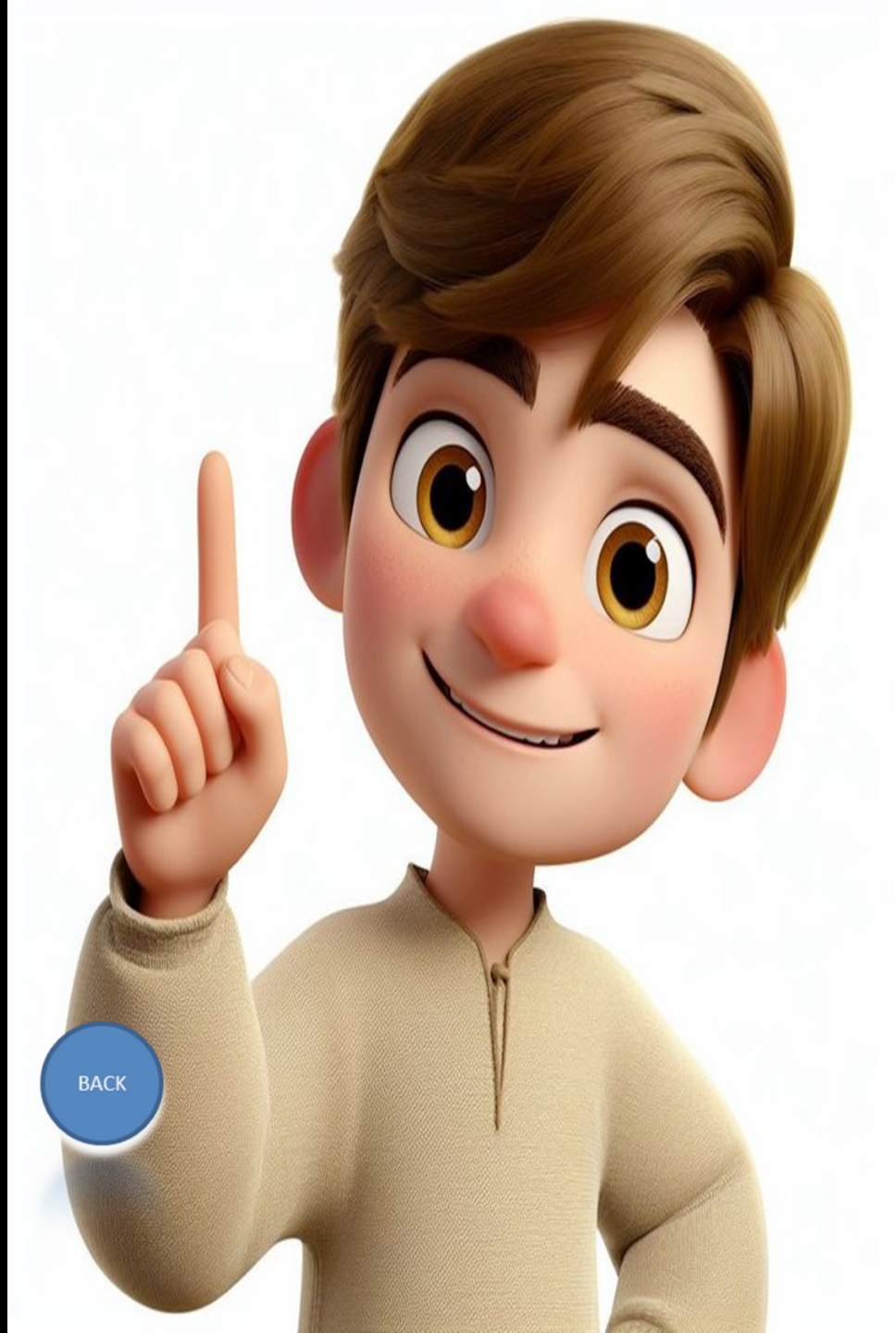
1) Create a short speech explaining the main message of Surah Al-Bayyinah to younger students.
2) Design a poster that illustrates the qualities of the "best of creatures.“
3) Write a real-life scenario showing someone acting with sincerity in worship.
4) Compose a mind map showing the main themes of the surah.
5) Create a comparison chart between the characteristics of the believers and the disbelievers mentioned in the surah.
6) Write a reflective paragraph explaining how Surah Al-Bayyinah can inspire positive change in a person's life.

Higher-Order Thinking Questions

1) Why did Allah send a Messenger and revelation instead of leaving people to rely solely on previous knowledge?
2) How does this surah establish the importance of evidence before accountability?
3) What might happen to a society that ignores clear guidance despite understanding it?

Higher-Order Thinking Questions

4) How do sincerity, prayer, and charity work together to build a strong community?
5) What does the surah teach about the criteria Allah uses to judge people?
6) How does the ending of the surah provide motivation for believers to remain steadfast?
7) If you had to summarize the entire surah in one sentence, what would it be and why?



و الحمد لله رب العالمين